

## Notes to the Town

Welcoming signs of spring greet us each day, release of trout in our NYS Blue Ribbon Creek, visible maple sap buckets and lines, Easter, forsythia blooming on the Route 5 underpass banks and day light savings time. We truly are filled with Hope in the spring of each year.

Following that logic, we have for the month of April and spring cleaning the roll-offs at the transfer station on Circular Hill Road each Saturday through the month. Large debris items you may have been storing over the winter or just starting on a demolition project, are accommodated there. Stop by the Town Hall to purchase your transfer station punch card prior to making the Saturday trip to the transfer station. Punch cards come in denominations of \$15.00 or \$30.00. For those unable to get into the Town Hall during clerk hours, simply mail your request and Clerk will return your punch card by mail to you. Hours at the Transfer Station are Saturdays 9:00 am to 3:00 PM.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector has all unpaid Town of LeRoy taxes until April 30, 2004. If you plan on paying your 2004 County and Town taxes in April, please make note they are still accepted at Town Hall until April 30, 2004 with interest penalties applied. After this date you must contact the County Treasurer to arrange for payment.

Town Clerk reports that turkey-hunting licenses are being issued at a fast rate. Another sure sign of spring. She also reports no functional issues with the NYS DEC decals licensing system. That is a true relief to hunters and issuer alike.

Assessor reports that annual re-assessment notices are in the mail this week. For concerns, questions and comments please give her a call at 768-6910 ext 221. Assessment function is to spread the tax levy equally among all property in a municipality. The municipality sets the tax levy and property assessment is the ratio used to assign equal portions of the levy. Property owners do have a remedy under the law to grieve their assessments at Grievance Day set for Thursday, May 27, 2004. An appointment is not required, but helpful to prepare the Grievance Board for your particular issue. Grievance Day applications are required, and available at Assessor's Office.

Code Enforcement Officer asks that residents pay particular attention to junk vehicles and winter debris and take the appropriate action to remove them. Those in the Town outside the Village, who burn, should notify the dispatch office at 768-2527 to report a controlled burn. This action alerts the fire department of a controlled burn and saves on false alarms for our local volunteer fire department.

Our court justices are educating the Town Board about a newly proposed legislative action by the State that would take more fine dollars and turn them over to the State instead of the local municipality. Justices that reduce a ticket would be required to turn over to the state the imposed fee on the original ticketed traffic offense which in most cases is greater than the plead down plea. This would negatively impact all local

jurisdictions financially. LeRoy and other thruway towns could see a reduction of 2/3rds of our fine income that supports the court staff, an amount equal to \$100,000.00 in any given year. Justice Arrington along with the County Magistrates organization is actively requesting repeal of the proposed legislation and is involving their local boards to join them. All on this issue at the state level welcomes cooperative action by justice and legislative branches of government working together towards a goal.

Recreation Director reports that work is continuing on the Summer Offerings Brochure, accepting applications for staff at parks and pool along with budgeting for the programs. She is pleased to announce that availability of a pick-up basketball league in cooperation with the School. Questions, concerns and comments should be directed to Kristi at 768-6910 ext 226.

Highway Department is currently working on cleaning up the trucks and equipment from the winter season wear. Reclamation work is scheduled for the impact of moving back snow banks once the weather complies.

Updates of other Town Projects:

Sidewalks on Summit Street grant of Charlie Nesbitt, is progressing as weather allows, trees have been removed as called for in the plan to date. Town and Village has signed an agreement to utilize the contracted rates of the Village to get the most sidewalk built for the grant dollars available. We look to a late April/ May construction period.

Co-Part project for enlarging wetlands permit process is in the pipeline. The DEC has the application and requires a full SEQR review. Engineer of Co-Part indicates that SEQR review should be completed and permit issued by late May/June. Cooperative partnership of County, Town and Village have committed to the remediation work for the drainage issues that are addressed by this plan.

Water District #6 (Route 19 South of Village line) is planning on all land reclamation work to be completed by mid June. Any landowners in the district that have complaints, lawn reseeds, drainage concerns should contact Supervisor Stein to compile a most complete and accurate list to provide to the contractor early May. This will aid in the speed in which the work can be accomplished and contract can be closed. Bear in mind that the contract is still open for the specific needs of land reclamation needs. Please phone her at 768-6910 ext. 231 to add issues to the list.

Water Extension #1(West Bergen, Randall, Selden Roads) Town Board has awarded the construction bid pending approval by USDA Rural Development Engineer. It is anticipated that approval will be secured by end of April. At that time contractor R. Meyers will begin construction of the water line. Town is particularly pleased with the contractor due to their previous work in the community and their attention to detail.

At the Town office we continue to receive concerns about the Extension #1 water charge on the January tax bill. All of the properties in Extension #1 were charged an equal

portion of the interest due on the monies borrowed by the Town on behalf of this benefit district. Benefit district costs, by law, cannot be borne by the general fund of a municipality. Therefore the interest due charged to the Extension owners on the January tax bill, which is the time that Towns can collect funds for benefit projects. Your concerns are welcomed at 768-6910 ext 231.

Town looks forward to meeting with the Village Board next week to resume our quarterly meetings. One of the items on our agenda is a draft agreement to put our Zoning Board of Appeals together. The synergies gained come from the administration on the Code Enforcement officer's workload and meeting schedules along with support staff. We thank the forward thinking of the Zoning Boards of Appeals of the Village and Town for their support of this move.

This month LeRoy is hosting the Genesee Association of Municipalities meeting on April 15<sup>th</sup>. All municipalities of the county are welcome to join us for collaborative dialog, municipal education, and legislative action. Our meeting is held this month at LB Grand at 7:00 PM.

Other meetings for the next month are Planning Board – April 20<sup>th</sup> 7:30 pm; Town Board April 22<sup>nd</sup> and May 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. Plan to join us, as you are able. Your input is valued.

Shelley Stein 768-6910 ext. 231